SY25-26 Distraction Free School Enforcement Report

School Year 2025–26 | DREAM Charter Schools | Published September 1, 2026 | Education Law § 2803

1. Purpose of This Report

New York State Education Law § 2803 requires schools to prohibit student use of internet-enabled devices during the school day on school grounds ("bell-to-bell"). It also requires an annual public report, posted on the school's website, on how the policy was enforced in the prior school year. This report provides non-identifiable demographic information about students who received disciplinary responses for non-compliance, analyzes whether enforcement differed across demographic groups, and, where a statistically significant disparity is found, sets out a mitigation action plan.

This report covers the 2025–26 school year for the following schools:

DREAM Charter High School (DCHS)

DREAM Charter School Mott Haven – Elementary (MHES)

DREAM Charter School Mott Haven – Middle (MHMS)

DREAM Charter School East Harlem – Elementary (EHES)

DREAM Charter School East Harlem – Middle (EHMS)

DREAM Charter School Highbridge – Elementary (HBES)

DREAM Charter School Highbridge – Middle (HBMS)

Our internet-enabled device policy is available on our website.

2. Policy Summary

In accordance with Education Law § 2803, students' internet-enabled devices are stored in pouches for the entire school day. Pouches are kept in a secure location accessible to school leadership. Students may use a device only where an exception applies, such as an IEP or 504 plan, a documented medical need, or another use required by law.

3. Enforcement Summary by School

The table below shows the number of referrals for policy violations and the number of unique students referred at each school during 2025–26.

School	Total Enrollment	Referrals	Unique Students Referred	Unique Students as % of Enrollment	Avg. Referrals per Student
DCHS	524	1,161	282	53.8%	4.1
MHMS	266	30	24	9.0%	1.3
EHMS	183	11	8	4.4%	1.4
HBMS	179	2	2	1.1%	1.0

School	Total Enrollment	Referrals	Unique Students Referred	Unique Students as % of Enrollment	Avg. Referrals per Student
MHES	529	3	3	.6%	1.0
EHES	391	8	8	2.0%	1.0
HBES	360	0	0	0%	0.0
Network total	**2,432**	**1,215**	**327**	**13.4%**	**3.7**

Our network uses a graduated response when a student violates the internet-enabled device policy. In every instance, the device is taken from the student. For a first offense, the student also receives a verbal warning. For a second offense, a staff member contacts the student's parent or guardian. For a third offense, the parent or guardian is asked to pick the student up from school. Responses may vary depending on the circumstances.

4. Non-Identifiable Demographic Data of Students Receiving Discipline

The table below compares the demographic makeup of students who received a disciplinary response with the demographic makeup of overall enrollment.

Demographic Group	Students Receiving Discipline	% of Students Disciplined	Enrollment	% of Enrollment
Black or African American	159	48.6%	1,025	42.1%
Hispanic or Latino	166	50.8%	1,331	54.7%
White	0	0.0%	15	.6%
Asian	0	0.0%	17	.7%
Multiracial / Other	2	.6%	44	1.8%
Female	176	53.8%	1,283	52.7%
Male	151	46.1%	1,149	47.2%
English Language Learner	7	2.1%	196	8.1%
Not an English Language Learner	320	97.8%	2,236	91.9%
Student with a disability	29	8.9%	547	22.5%
Student without a disability	298	97.1%	1,885	77.5

5. Mitigation Action Plan

No statistically significant disparate enforcement impact was identified in 2025 - 26. We will continue to monitor enforcement data quarterly during 2026–27.

6. Contact

Questions about this report or the policy may be directed to Tiffani Alexander, Managing Director of Operational Strategy, talexander@wearedream.org.